

# Memoirs of the Tulsa Ambulancers

By SERGT. JAMES A. BRILL

An Incidental Narrative of the Daring Deeds and Noble Service Rendered by Tulsa's Unit of the Rainbow Division 367 Days in Contact with the Enemy.

## CHAPTER XV CHATEAU THIERRY.

When we passed back from the front in Champagne and waited for the ambulance drivers to take us to the rear, we were met by the machine gunners of the division who had been fighting the battle of the Marne. They were waiting for us to be taken to the rear, and they were waiting for us to be taken to the rear.

By day we watched the reserves from the front, and at night we saw the enemy's lights. The machine gunners of the division were waiting for us to be taken to the rear, and they were waiting for us to be taken to the rear.

It took some time to get to the rear, and we were waiting for the ambulance drivers to take us to the rear. The machine gunners of the division were waiting for us to be taken to the rear, and they were waiting for us to be taken to the rear.

The great counter-attack had started on the 18th, and as we waited, camped in a forest, for the assembling of our division, we had opportunity to see ambulancers of other divisions coming through at the time with their loads of wounded. We also saw German prisoners being marched through the rear in small groups.

On July 24th our company was ordered to move up into our position in the line, which had been forced steadily back from the region below Chateau-Thierry in glorious fighting. On this journey we glimpsed for the first time the devastation caused by the fighting. The following, from Sgt. Glenn A. Vandervoort's very emotional diary, gives a fair snapshot of the region: "We passed through the village of Vaux, we rather what had been the village. I never saw a town so completely razed. Next passed through Chateau-Thierry. It is a shanty town, though nothing like Vaux. Can see on every hand the evidences of battle. Windows on most of the houses barricaded with sand-bags and buildings all bullet-scarred. After leaving Chateau-Thierry commenced to see dead bodies strewn all over the fields on both sides of the road. Some are Germans and some are Americans. Most have been killed fighting along here (the heights north of the city). About three or four miles from our destination saw a keen air fight and was greatly interested until they got directly overhead, and machine-gun bullets began to fall like hail around us. I was on top of the truck and didn't have my helmet with me. Arrive at destination. Epique, about 3 p. m. The boches moved out at 5 this morning. Will sleep in a billet tonight that was occupied last night by the boche.

Didn't get a whole lot of sleep last night. The shelling was all right. One shell scraped the roof of our house. Everyone got up without saying a word. Sure was funny—afterwards. Two gas alarms—about four kilometers, stretching from northwest to southwest, and about five to eight kilometers north and east from Chateau-Thierry. The Germans were retreating, doggedly making vicious snafus and counters at chosen points. One of these had been the heights above Chateau-Thierry, and another lay just ahead of our line. It contained the Fort de Vaux, and beyond it the River Ourcq with its steep ravines.

We worked first at the village and dressing station at Epique, through which 6,000 wounded passed during our stay. Detachments of litter-bearers had gone out with the infantry regiments, and these men followed the detachments in their attacks throughout the battle, working for long hours without food or drink or protection from the enemy's artillery, machine guns and airplanes. The troops saved their portion of battle from hunger, pausing a bit as if for a last long breath, and then attacked fiercely on July 27. Their first objective was the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

the strong point of the strategic position held by the enemy. The 19th, indeed, they had the center of the attack. Fought in the 18th and 19th. It was the Americans first taste of open warfare, and they took it at first in terror. After a while, fighting the Americans engaged with the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

Such fighting made hard, sad, and often and without success, and without success, were finding out, finally in keeping in touch with the situation, which they might displace from their positions. And our ambulancers were finding out the front the most trying days and nights of their career in the war.

It was to these points that our drivers had to carry their endless cargoes of wounded, from positions often later in the drive twenty-five kilometers northeast of Chateau-Thierry, making a distance in one direction of from fifty to seventy-five kilometers. This driving had to be done night and day, with no rest for the cars and with virtually no rest for the drivers. It was over roads that had been cut to pieces first by artillery fire of both sides and then for days by the continual heavy traffic over it in both directions. It was kept for most of the season to have to be bolted over such roads for such unheeded distances, but someone's inefficiency had made it necessary. Our drivers worked two on each ambulance, day and night, over roads choked with traffic, one slept while the other drove. And thus they avoided a glimpse of the wounded constantly coming in as our lines pushed steadily forward.

After the taking of Croix Rouge farm our infantry pushed the bodies clear out of the Fort de Vaux and

the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was the strong point of the strategic position held by the enemy. The 19th, indeed, they had the center of the attack. Fought in the 18th and 19th. It was the Americans first taste of open warfare, and they took it at first in terror. After a while, fighting the Americans engaged with the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

The next big wave of wounded came when the 42nd and 1st divisions of the American army under command of General Pershing, after a long and hard fight, had taken the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

Such fighting made hard, sad, and often and without success, and without success, were finding out, finally in keeping in touch with the situation, which they might displace from their positions. And our ambulancers were finding out the front the most trying days and nights of their career in the war.

It was to these points that our drivers had to carry their endless cargoes of wounded, from positions often later in the drive twenty-five kilometers northeast of Chateau-Thierry, making a distance in one direction of from fifty to seventy-five kilometers. This driving had to be done night and day, with no rest for the cars and with virtually no rest for the drivers. It was over roads that had been cut to pieces first by artillery fire of both sides and then for days by the continual heavy traffic over it in both directions. It was kept for most of the season to have to be bolted over such roads for such unheeded distances, but someone's inefficiency had made it necessary. Our drivers worked two on each ambulance, day and night, over roads choked with traffic, one slept while the other drove. And thus they avoided a glimpse of the wounded constantly coming in as our lines pushed steadily forward.

After the taking of Croix Rouge farm our infantry pushed the bodies clear out of the Fort de Vaux and

the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was the strong point of the strategic position held by the enemy. The 19th, indeed, they had the center of the attack. Fought in the 18th and 19th. It was the Americans first taste of open warfare, and they took it at first in terror. After a while, fighting the Americans engaged with the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

The next big wave of wounded came when the 42nd and 1st divisions of the American army under command of General Pershing, after a long and hard fight, had taken the Croix Rouge farm, a group of buildings in the edge of a dense forest, which was

Such fighting made hard, sad, and often and without success, and without success, were finding out, finally in keeping in touch with the situation, which they might displace from their positions. And our ambulancers were finding out the front the most trying days and nights of their career in the war.

It was to these points that our drivers had to carry their endless cargoes of wounded, from positions often later in the drive twenty-five kilometers northeast of Chateau-Thierry, making a distance in one direction of from fifty to seventy-five kilometers. This driving had to be done night and day, with no rest for the cars and with virtually no rest for the drivers. It was over roads that had been cut to pieces first by artillery fire of both sides and then for days by the continual heavy traffic over it in both directions. It was kept for most of the season to have to be bolted over such roads for such unheeded distances, but someone's inefficiency had made it necessary. Our drivers worked two on each ambulance, day and night, over roads choked with traffic, one slept while the other drove. And thus they avoided a glimpse of the wounded constantly coming in as our lines pushed steadily forward.

After the taking of Croix Rouge farm our infantry pushed the bodies clear out of the Fort de Vaux and

such passed. No intention was the purpose, however, and at the request for drivers that taken reduced to the hospital, thinking his injury was slight. Three days later, on the 25th of July, he fell into such a condition of exhaustion from the effects of the continued work, combined with the gas fumes, that he was compelled to go to the gas hospital.

His injuries, it developed, were very serious. Owen fought for his life for weeks, and was altogether eight months in various hospitals in France. He returned home on May 21, 1919. Although not completely disabled, Owen suffered almost the complete loss of a lung. The story which was also seriously impaired by the poison gas.

We drew back in broad daylight this time to our former stopping place at Lagny. There we rested a bit, while a few fortunate ones drew their first breath in the Maine again, and cleaned the mud and dirt from our uniforms.

Again on August 16 we packed up and journeyed back to the Bouquet rest area near Neuf chateau, and not far from our first home at Vaux-lez-Compiègne. Our vehicle for rest was a horse-drawn ambulance. And again we took the first and last, period of complete rest which we were to enjoy while we were members of the American Expeditionary Forces.

## LIFE SAVING SERVICE

At First Baptist Church, corner Fourth and South Chouteau, Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Also every night through the week. Johnson & Hubbs, Evangelists. All welcome.

Come and hear the Gospel in Sermon, Song and Story

at the First Baptist Church in these meetings.

All  
Buttrick  
Patterns  
Sold  
Here

**Campbells**  
POPULAR PRICE STORE

Exclusive  
Selling Agency  
for  
Queen Quality  
Footwear

## New Summer Garments of Beauty at Special Prices For Week

Dresses at \$12.45

One lot of Dresses in a range of clever models that will assure comfort and good looks to every wearer, regular \$22.50 and \$25 values special at \$12.45

Dresses at \$8.45

Over 30 models in the lot and each one displays the smartest of summer fashions; regular \$15 and \$16 values for the week at \$8.45

### Silk Sport Suits

Entire stocks of summer styles in Silk Sport Suits will go this week at following reductions:  
Regular \$30 and \$35 values, choice \$18.50  
Regular \$18 values, choice at \$25.00

### Silk Dresses

A splendid selection is offered in Silk Dresses; all of the very finest fabric and every one an exclusive model. Price range \$15 to \$35

### White Wash Dress Skirts

A choice of all fabrics and styles; offered for week at following reductions:  
Regular \$4.00 values at \$1.95  
Regular \$10.00 values at \$3.95

### One Table Wash Skirts, \$1.25

Here is the bargain event of all bargains in Wash Skirts. Every one a late model for this season's wear. Over 100 in the lot. Regular \$3.00 and \$4.00 values, choice at \$1.25

### Voile Dresses

The fabric quality and exceptional styles of these Voile Dresses will meet with instant approval; choice of white and colors. Prices range \$7.50 to \$15

### Skirts in Extra Sizes

A very large showing of Separate Skirts in extra sizes; materials of serge, gabardine and Henrietta, every color. Priced for week \$7.50 to \$12

### Last Call on Serge Suits

Regular \$27.50 values go at \$18.50  
Regular \$30.00 values go at \$22.50  
Regular \$45.00 values go at \$27.50

### Dresses in Large Sizes

Materials of crepe de chine, georgette and combinations of the two with silks. So many different models that you are sure of meeting your individual style preference. Prices range \$18 to \$30

### Silk Poplin Skirts Special

All regular \$12.00 values go at \$7.45  
All regular \$17.00 values go at \$12.45

### Skirts at \$1.95

One lot of Skirts in all sizes; regular \$4.00 values; priced for week \$1.95

## One Week's Offerings of Special Values in Men's and Boys' Section

### Palm Beach Suits, \$8.45

One lot of men's fine quality Palm Beach Suits, all sizes; choice of natural and few colors. A regular \$12 value for the week \$8.45

### Cool Cloth Suits

Men's Cool Cloth Suits in range of all sizes and many different styles; regular \$12 value for the week \$8.45

### Young Men's Suits \$8.45

This lot of Suits are exceptional values; regular \$12 values; mostly chevron checks. Priced for week \$8.45

### Men's Summer Suits, \$12.50

In this lot of Suits are models of all colors and patterns; new styles and regular \$18 values for the week \$12.50

### One lot of men's new style Summer Suits, two-piece and wonderful values at the price for the week \$12.50 and \$15

### Boys' Suits

Boys' Palm Beach Suits in best models for summer; ages 11 to 15 years; regular \$5.00 and \$7.50 values for the week at \$5.00

### Boys' Suits

One lot of Boys' Suits, ages 5 to 15 years; all sizes; regular \$12.50 values for week \$5.95

### Rompers

One entire shipment of Rompers in choice of many styles for week at 75c, 85c and \$1

### Boys' Wash Suits

A choice of all the prevailing models in Boys' Wash Suits, styles, priced special for week \$1.50 to \$3.50

### Men's Fine Suits, \$30

One lot of our very best Men's Fine Suits, all colors and patterns; custom tailored and priced special for the week \$30



**T**HERE is a reason for the position and the shape of Staggard Studs.

The long ovals roll with the road; they are always headed in the direction the car takes.

And because they are staggered, the full length of at least three of these studs is always on the road.

Staggard Studs get maximum grip with minimum friction because they are designed to do so; they last much longer because of the toughening quality of Pro-dium Process.

Their longer life and greater effectiveness are economic reasons for equipping your car with Republic Tires.

**REPUBLIC TIRES**  
With STAGGARD Studs

**O. A. Steiner Tire Company**  
402 East Second  
Phone 577



**We Salute This Tire—You will too**

When you consider that the growth of our business depends upon the kind of tires we sell and the service we render, you realize that Miller Tires must be exceptional or we would not feature them as we do.

They are. They are long-distance runners—built by uniform workmen to a championship standard. No tires cost you less per mile, none others are geared-to-the-road.

**Elam Tire Repair Co.**  
404 E. Second St.  
Phone 5052